

In the claims:

1. (ORIGINAL) A catalyst comprising particles of one or more catalytic metals supported on a porous carrier made of one or more metal oxides, wherein the porous carrier is made of an oxide containing a rare earth oxide, and that the catalytic metal particles are made of one or more transition metals or transition metal oxides having 10 to 50000 atoms.
2. (ORIGINAL) The catalyst according to claim 1, wherein the catalytic metal particles are supported as a single layer or multiple layers having a thickness of 1 to 5 atoms in an oxidizing atmosphere.
3. (ORIGINAL) The catalyst according to claim 2, wherein at least one kind of the catalytic metal particles on the carrier is made of a complex oxide of a rare earth element and a transition metal element.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A catalyst product formed by reducing the catalyst according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~, the catalyst comprising granular catalytic metal particles having a particle size of 1 to 10 nm supported on a porous carrier.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The catalyst according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the porous carrier contains 15 to 100 wt% rare earth oxide.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The catalyst according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the porous carrier has a specific surface area of 10 to 250 m²/g for 1 wt% of an amount of a catalytic metal supported relative to the whole catalyst.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The catalyst according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the one or more transition metals are ~~at least~~ any of platinum, palladium, rhodium, ruthenium, silver, gold and iridium.
8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The catalyst according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~, wherein the oxide constituting the porous carrier is any of ceria, ceria-zirconia, ceria-zirconia-yttria or ceria-lanthanum-zirconia.
9. (NEW) A product formed by reducing the catalyst according to claim 3, the catalyst comprising granular catalytic metal particles having a particle size of 1 to 10 nm supported on a porous carrier.
10. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 2, wherein the porous carrier contains 15 to 100 wt% rare earth oxide.
11. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 3, wherein the porous carrier contains 15 to 100 wt% rare earth oxide.
12. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 4, wherein the porous carrier contains 15 to 100 wt% rare earth oxide.
13. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 9, wherein the porous carrier contains 15 to 100 wt% rare earth oxide.
14. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 2, wherein the porous carrier has a specific surface area of 10 to 250 m²/g for 1 wt% of an amount of a catalytic metal supported

relative to the whole catalyst.

15. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 3, wherein the porous carrier has a specific surface area of 10 to 250 m²/g for 1 wt% of an amount of a catalytic metal supported relative to the whole catalyst.

16. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 4, wherein the porous carrier has a specific surface area of 10 to 250 m²/g for 1 wt% of an amount of a catalytic metal supported relative to the whole catalyst.

17. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 5, wherein the porous carrier has a specific surface area of 10 to 250 m²/g for 1 wt% of an amount of a catalytic metal supported relative to the whole catalyst.

18. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 9, wherein the porous carrier has a specific surface area of 10 to 250 m²/g for 1 wt% of an amount of a catalytic metal supported relative to the whole catalyst.

19. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 10, wherein the porous carrier has a specific surface area of 10 to 250 m²/g for 1 wt% of an amount of a catalytic metal supported relative to the whole catalyst.

20. (NEW) The catalyst according to claim 11, wherein the porous carrier has a specific surface area of 10 to 250 m²/g for 1 wt% of an amount of a catalytic metal supported relative to the whole catalyst.